L. BARRY

PORT HEALTH DISTRICT
OF WORKINGTON

Annual Report

OF THE

PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1958

BY

JAMES L. HUNTER,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Workington,
February, 1959.

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WORKINGTON STAR LTD.

MEMBERS OF THE WORKINGTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. R. DAVIS

(*Workington Borough*)

COUNCILLOR E. BARRACLOUGH (*Workington Borough*)

,, J. BROWN (*Cockermouth R.D.C.*)

,, A. H. DUNN (*Workington Borough*)

,, H. H. McMANUS (*Workington Borough*)

,, J. C. MOORE (*Workington Borough*)

,, W. ROE (*Ennerdale R.D.C.*)

,, J. STANGER (*Cockermouth R.D.C.*)

,, E. L. D. TOMLINSON (*Workington Borough*)

ALDERMAN W. A. WALKER (*Workington Borough*)

STAFF

Clerk ..... RUSSELL C. PHARAOH

Port Medical Officer ..... J. L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Port Medical Officer ... R. E. FLETCHER, M.B., Ch.B.

Port Health Inspector ..... R. JAMES

Assistant Port Health Inspector ..... C. E. PEARSON

TOWN HALL,

WORKINGTON,

February, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the Workington Port Health Authority.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

My Report for the year 1958 has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Form Port 20 of the Ministry of Health, 1952.

The health of the seamen arriving at the Port has been generally good. There was no case of infectious disease during the year and only three cases required hospital treatment for surgical or medical conditions. During the year there was an increase of venereal disease.

The importation of petroleum products has increased by some 10,000 tons, but mineral cargoes still constitute the bulk of trade. The only foodstuffs imported during the year were 450 tons of potatoes from Ireland.

There has been a decrease in the number of vessels entering the Port due to a recession in the steel trade, consequently the volume of imports and exports has declined. The tendency is for larger modern vessels to carry iron ore, and the amenities provided for the crews are very good.

STAFF.

There were no changes of staff during the year. A list of the personnel and of the members of the Port Health Authority appear on page 2.

SHIPS ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

Ships from.	*Number.*	*Tonnage.*	*Number Inspected.*		*Number of ships reported as having, or having had, during the voyage, infectous disease on board.*
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	*By the Port Health Inspector.*	
Foreign Ports	91	197,710	15	91	Nil
Coastwise	412	115,387	Nil	379	Nil
Total	503	313,097	15	470	Nil

Character of Shipping and Trade during the Year.

Passenger Traffic.

Number of passengers Inwards	14
Number of passengers Outwards	2

Cargo Traffic.

Imports amounted to 585,922 tons as compared with 750,901 tons during the previous year. Iron ore (including manganese ore) was again the chief import, viz.:—

Iron and Manganese Ore	514,313 tons
Coking Coal	19,457 tons
Petroleum	46,503 tons
Bricks and Ganister	2,965 tons
Scrap	285 tons
Potatoes	450 tons
Ingot Moulds	1,949 tons
	585,922 tons

Exports amounted to 107,638 tons as compared with 142,399 tons in 1957, viz.:—

Steel	76,342 tons
Coke Nuts	4,505 tons
Pig Iron	5,062 tons
Tar	6,076 tons
Coal	4,195 tons
Ingot Moulds	6,646 tons
Pitch	2,732 tons
General Cargo	1,564 tons
Sulphate of Ammonia	300 tons
Petroleum	20 tons
Filler Bricks, Tuyeres, etc.	196 tons
	107,638 tons

Ports from which Ships arrived.

Foreign—91:

Algeria	Algiers	22
	Bona	10
France	Marans	1
	Les Sables D'Olonne .	1
Holland	Ymuiden	4
Norway	Kirkenes	25
Pakistan	Chalna	1
Russia	Poti	1
Spain	Hornillo	1
	Almeria	1
Spanish North Africa ...	Melilla	16
	Port Lyanty ...	1
Sweden	Lulea	6
West Africa (Gold Coast) ...	Takoradi	1

Coastwise—412:

Ardrossan	2	Heysham	33
Aberdeen	2	Holyhead	10
Ayr	1	Irvine	2
Barry	20	Londonderry ...	12
Barrow	9	Limerick	1
Ballina	1	Liverpool	30
Belfast	28	Manchester	7
Birkenhead	120	Maryport	1
Cork	2	Milford Haven ...	1
Carrickfergus ...	2	Newport	4
Coleraine	2	Peel	2
Connahs Quay ...	3	Preston	1
Douglas	6	Ramsay	1
Dublin	14	Southampton ...	1
Ellesmere Port ...	2	Stanlow	37
Fleetwood	2	Silloth	1
Fishing Grounds ...	12	Swansea	3
Glasson Dock ...	2	Stornaway ...	1
Greenock	14	Waterford	2
Glasgow	17	Whitehaven ...	1

Water Samples.

The Port is supplied with chlorinated water via the mains of Workington Borough: ship water-tanks are filled from hydrants situated on the dockside. Routine samples, both bacteriological and chemical, taken during the year, proved to be satisfactory.

Routine enquiries were made on all vessels as to the source of the water on board and as to the frequency and method of cleaning out water tanks.

In four cases samples of water taken from foreign-going vessels were found to be satisfactory.

Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

The Regulations have continued to work smoothly in all sections itemised in the report for 1955.

Smallpox.

The reception hospital for cases of Smallpox is now Langley Park Hospital, Co. Durham. The ambulance and laboratory services remain the same as in recent years.

Venereal Disease.

Particular enquiries are made on all vessels in respect of these diseases and printed directions as to procedure for obtaining treatment locally are given.

During the year eighteen seamen (15 British and 3 foreign) received treatment.

Cases of Notifiable and Other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

No case of infectious disease was reported and no cases of illness seen by the Port Medical Officer was of this nature.

The following cases of sickness or injury were reported by masters of vessels when docking:—

Nationality.	*Complaint.*	*Treatment.*
British.	Bronchitis.	Local Medical Practitioner.
Dutch.	Influenza.	Local Medical Practitioner.
Dutch.	Influenza.	Local Medical Practitioner.
Dutch.	Influenza.	Local Medical Practitioner.
Dutch.	Influenza.	Local Medical Practitioner.
British.	Cerebral haemorrhage.	Hospital (Fatal).
Costa Rican.	Teeth.	Dentist.
British.	Injured foot.	Hospital.
Dutch.	Influenza.	Local Medical Practitioner.
Dutch.	Influenza.	Local Medical Practitioner.
Dutch.	Influenza.	Local Medical Practitioner.
British.	Bronchitis.	Discharged. Proceeded home.
British.	Pneumonia.	Hospital.

Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.

All vessels are searched for rats. Test baits and traps are periodically laid. Rat guards belonging to the Authority are available.

Slight evidence of rats was discovered on two vessels but trapping and baiting proved unsuccessful.

The carrying of mineral cargoes minimises the risk of rat infestation, and the legal necessity for vessels to carry Deratting and Rodent Control Certificates is gradually eliminating rats from all vessels.

During the year 21 Deratting Exemption Certificates and 10 Rodent Control Certificates were issued.

Dockside buildings are periodically test-baited. One minor infestation was cleared.

Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

Nature and Number of Inspections.		*Notices served.*		*Result of serving Notices.*
		Statutory Notices.	*Other Notices.*	
British	427	Nil	23	2 attention next port. Remainder carried out.
Foreign	131	Nil	7	1 attention next port. Remainder carried out.
Total	558	Nil	30	

The thirty notices served cover the following defects, nuisances or conditions prejudicial to health:—

	British.	*Other Nationalities.*	
Dirty crews' quarters	2	1	1 Costa Rican.
Dirty messrooms	2	2	1 French. 1 Costa Rican.
Dirty pantries, galleys or storerooms	1	1	1 Costa Rican.
Dirty wash-places	3	1	1 Norwegian.
Choked scuppers or sinks	9	—	
Choked and/or dirty waterclosets	8	2	2 Costa Rican.
Leaking steampipes	1	—	
Defective ventilators or insufficient ventilation	1	—	
Leaking overhead decks	1	—	
Defective ports	3	—	
Defective sanitary fittings	7	2	1 Panamanian. 1 Dutch.
	38	9	

The number of vessels entering the Port during 1958 decreased by 105 as compared with the previous year.

Year.	*Number.*	*Total Net Tonnage.*
1952	491	320,710
1953	533	344,134
1954	504	391,962
1955	578	355,141
1956	540	351,731
1957	608	377,009
1958	503	313,097

The nationalities and number of ships of each nationality of the vessels entering the Port were as follows:—

Nationality.	*No. of Ships.*
British	397
Dutch	42
Norwegian	29
Costa Rican	15
Danish	4
French	5
German	1
Swedish	7
Panamanian	1
Republic of Ireland	2
	503

Miscellaneous.

Two notices were served under the Parrots and Miscellaneous Birds (Prohibition of Importation) Order, 1953.

The amenity block on the dock was disinfested twice during the year for flies.

The foreshore under the jurisdiction of the Authority was regularly inspected. Carcases of two sheep were removed and disposed of during the year.

I wish again to record my thanks to the other members of the Staff for their good work and help throughout the year. I wish also to thank the Officials of the Dock and Harbour for much consideration and help.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Port Medical Officer.